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UGANDA PROTECTORATE.

AN ORDINANCE

Enacted by His Majesty's Commissioner for the Uganda Protectorate.

(L.S.) J. HAYES SADLER,
His Majesty's Commissioner.

No. 5 of 1903.

Volunteer Reserve.

IT is hereby enacted as follows:—

1. This Ordinance may be cited as "The Uganda Volunteer Reserve Ordinance, 1903." Short title.

2. Before any rifle corps of the Volunteer Reserve can be formed under this Ordinance, names of not less than fifteen men over the age of 16 wishing to form the corps must be sent in for the approval of His Majesty's Commissioner, through the Sub-Commissioner of the district within which its head-quarters are to be fixed. The limits of the locality within which members must reside must also be stated. On the approval of His Majesty's Commissioner being signified by notice in the Government "Gazette," the corps shall be thereby duly formed. Formation of corps.

3. The corps shall cease to exist if its numerical strength falls below fifteen registered members. In such cases all arms issued to the members under paragraph 23 must be disposed of as provided in paragraphs 24 and 25, unless the members are specially allowed by Government to retain them, pending the reorganization of the corps, or unless the members join some other corps within three months. When corps ceases to exist.

4. Every member must be a British subject over 16 years of age, residing in Uganda, and must upon enrolment take the oath of allegiance set forth in form No 1 of Schedule (*a*) before a Justice of the Peace or Magistrate, and sign the roll of membership: provided that other European or Indian residents may be admitted on taking the modified oath set forth in form No. 2 and signing the roll. Membership.

5. The majority of the members of a corps present at any special meeting convened for the purpose may make rules for the election of members and the management generally of the affairs of the corps. Such rules must be submitted by the Secretary for the approval of the Government. Members may make Rules.

Rules take precedence of bye-laws.

6. These rules shall at all times take precedence of any bye-laws of the corps.

Annual General Meeting.

7. These rules must prescribe in what month the Annual General Meeting shall take place.

President and Secretary.

8. The Sub-Commissioner of the district within which the head-quarters of a corps are fixed under paragraph 2 shall be *ex officio* President of the corps. A Secretary, who must be a registered member must be elected annually at the General Meeting by a majority of the members present, and the office of Secretary must always be filled up: provided that in case from any cause there be no election the Secretary shall remain in office for the ensuing year.

Powers of Secretary.

Recovery of fines and penalties.

9. The property of each corps is vested in the Secretary, and he is the representative officer of the corps in all matters of correspondence with the Government. The Secretary is empowered to maintain order and discipline amongst members of the corps whenever assembled, and may impose fines, as set forth in Schedule (*b*). All fines or penalties imposed, if not paid within fourteen days, may be recovered in the name of the Secretary in the Court of a Magistrate, and the amount thereof shall be paid into the funds of the corps. In the absence of the Secretary, the powers held by him may be exercised by a Deputy appointed by the corps. Any penalty for breach of paragraphs 19, 20, 27, 31, 34, and 35, may be sued for at the instance of the Secretary in the Court of a Magistrate, and all fines shall be paid into the funds of the corps.

Dismissal of member.

10. Any member committing a breach of sub-sections (*e*), (*g*), (*h*), or (*k*), of Schedule (*b*) of this Ordinance may be dismissed from the corps by the Secretary, in addition to the infliction of a fine.

Officers may make bye-laws.

11. The officers of the corps will have power to make such bye-laws as from time to time may be necessary for the proper care of arms, targets, expenditure of ammunition, &c.

Arms in wrongful possession.

12. It shall be lawful for the Secretary to take possession of, or cause to be taken possession of, any rifle issued by the Government which he may find, or ascertain is, in the possession of any person other than to whom it was issued or to whom it has been transferred, as provided in this Ordinance.

Classes of members.

13. There shall be two classes of members :—

(*a*.) Registered members, who must reside within the limits of the locality, as defined in accordance with paragraph 2.

(*b*.) Honorary members.

Restriction on registered members.

14. A person can be a registered member of one corps only, but may be an honorary member of as many corps as he may desire.

Resignation of members.

15. Any member may resign his membership by giving to the Secretary of his corps one month's notice in writing, and by paying all moneys due by him under this Ordinance, or under the rules and bye-laws of the corps, provided no member can claim his discharge when the corps is called out under paragraph 34 of this Ordinance.

Annual Rifle Meeting and requirements for efficiency.

16. Each corps must hold an annual rifle meeting for rifle practice and for competition for prizes. Each registered member present at this meeting firing not less than twenty rounds, and, being in possession of a suitable rifle, kept clean and in good order, will be considered efficient: provided the member who, from any sufficient cause, may be unable to attend the annual rifle meeting of his corps may be allowed by the Secretary to comply with the requirements for efficiency at another meeting of his corps which has been specially called for practice or competition of prizes.

Capitation grant.

17. Subject to the approval of His Majesty's Commissioner, an annual capitation grant will be made to every corps at the rate of 15 rupees per annum for every registered efficient thereof, and will be due on the 31st December of each year. This grant will go the funds of the corps and not to individual members. In special cases

this capitation grant may be supplemented from an annual grant to the Volunteer Reserve, at the same rate which shall be allotted to individual corps, or for the purposes of the Volunteer Reserve, as may be directed by His Majesty's Commissioner.

How drawn

18. The Secretary will draw the capitation grant on account of each registered efficient member on a certified pay list, and a report on the way in which it has been expended must be submitted before the amount for the succeeding year will be passed.

Right to draw ammunition.

19. Every registered member of a corps will be entitled to draw 100 rounds of ammunition per annum free of charge, and every efficient registered member will be entitled to purchase an additional 300 rounds of ammunition per annum at cost price. This ammunition must be drawn as required from the range officer, who will duly record the amount drawn, and the name of the member drawing the same. The ammunition so drawn must be fired on a range under the supervision of an officer of the corps. Any breach of this regulation shall be punished by a fine not exceeding 70 rupees, or, in case of necessity, by prosecution in a Court of law.

Obligation on members to possess 100 rounds.

20. Every member is responsible to the Secretary that he has constantly in his possession not less than 100 rounds of ball ammunition, and he shall produce the same whenever called upon to do so by the Secretary. This ammunition must not be used for practice unless it can be immediately replaced.

Ammunition, how drawn, and returns of.

21. The Secretary will draw the ammunition to which the members of the corps shall be entitled from time to time as required. A return, certified by the Secretary and range officer of the manner in which this ammunition has been expended shall be rendered by the corps at the close of each financial year.

Ammunition and capitation grant to be drawn for efficient members only.

22. Ammunition and the capitation grant can only be drawn on account of the registered efficient members of a corps, and not by honorary members.

Rifles.

23. Every registered member of a corps may be provided with a Government rifle on depositing the value with the Secretary of the corps. Rifles will be issued to the Secretary on repayment, upon the production of an order on the Quarter-master of the regular troops, certifying that they are required for duly enrolled registered members, whose names must be stated.

Disposal of rifles.

24. Rifles remain Government property. No rifle issued by the Government for the use of a member of a corps shall be parted with by such member, except—

(*a.*) To a member of a corps under this Ordinance.
(*b.*) To the Government.

Method of disposal.

25. Any member desiring to part with his rifle as provided in the previous section, must obtain the sanction of the Secretary, who in the case of a proposal to hand the rifle back to Government, will forward it to the Quarter-master of the regular troops. The Quarter-master of the regular troops will place a fair value on the rifle, and forward the amount to the Secretary.

On resignation.

26. A member in possession of a Government rifle wishing to resign, must hand back his rifle to the Secretary, who will dispose of it as provided under sections 24 and 25.

Rifles and ammunition not to be taken from Uganda.

27. A rifle issued by the Government to a member of a corps shall never be removed from Uganda. Nor may any ammunition purchased or received under this Ordinance be taken from Uganda. Any person contravening this Regulation shall be liable to a penalty of 75 rupees.

Covenant on receipt of Government rifle.

28. Every member obtaining a rifle from the Government shall, before receiving the same, be required to sign a covenant set forth in Schedule (C), in the presence of the Quarter-master of the regular troops, or of the Secretary of the rifle club, or of a Magistrate.

Private rifle for Volunteer purposes.

29. In any case where a member shall import a military rifle of the pattern used by the regular troops, and such rifle is to be used for the purpose of the Volunteer Reserve, he will be entitled to a rebate of customs duty on such rifle.

Roll.

30. The Secretary will be required to furnish the Government with a nominal roll annually, showing the registered and honorary members of his corps, with the consecutive number of the Government rifle, if any, in the possession of each. This roll is to be furnished in duplicate, not later than the 15th December in each year, through the President of the corps.

Penalty for drawing excess ammunition.

31. Any member obtaining or attempting to obtain more than the amount of ammunition to which he is entitled under this Ordinance will be liable to a fine of 75 rupees.

Inspection.

32. At the annual rifle meeting of the corps the arms, &c., of the members may be inspected by an officer appointed by the Government for the purpose.

Repairs of arms.

33. The arms issued by the Government to members of the Volunteer Reserve will be repaired at cost price, provided the damage is not occasioned by neglect or carelessness.

Liability for military service.

34. In the event of war or serious disturbance threatening the Protectorate, or danger of either, His Majesty's Commissioner may call out the members of the Volunteer Reserve for service in Uganda, and the Presidents may then direct the Secretaries of the several corps to assemble the members at convenient places with the object of taking such measures as may be deemed necessary by the Government for the defence of the country. And every registered member of the Volunteer Reserve is bound to obey the orders of the Secretary of the corps to which he belongs, who shall give to each not less than two days or other sufficient notice of the hour and place of assembly. Such service shall, if necessary, be until the termination of the war or other disturbance, on account of which they are so summoned.

Failure to attend when called upon for military service.

35. Whenever and so often as a member of a corps of the Volunteer Reserve shall be notified to assemble with other members of the corps, as provided in the previous paragraph, and he shall fail or neglect to attend, unless he shall prove by satisfactory medical evidence that he is incapacitated, such member shall be liable to a fine of 75 rupees, and a continued failure or neglect shall be deemed a continuing breach of this Ordinance: provided that the Secretary of the corps shall have the power, in cases of emergency, to grant leave of absence to a member for sufficient reasons shown. A report showing satisfactory reasons for granting such leave of absence must be at once furnished by the Secretary to the President for confirmation by Government.

Appointment of officers for military service.

36. At any time when a corps shall be called out for service, His Majesty's Commissioner or the President of the corps may appoint officers or leaders, whose orders the members shall promptly obey.

(Signed) J. HAYES SADLER,
His Majesty's Commissioner.

(Seal.)

Entebbe, March 30, 1903.

SCHEDULE (A).

Forms.

Form No. 1.—*Oath of Allegiance.*

I, , do swear that I will be faithful and bear true allegiance to his Majesty King Edward VII, his heirs and successors according to law, and that I will appear for military service in Uganda when called upon by His Majesty Commissioner.

So help me God.

Sworn before me, , at , this day of , 19 .

Form No. 2.—*Modified Oath for Aliens.*

I, , do swear that I will appear for military service in Uganda for defence against natives of Africa when called upon by His Britannic Majesty's Commissioner.

So help me God.

Sworn before me, , at , this day of , 19 .

SCHEDULE (B).

Fines which may be Inflicted by the Secretary of a Rifle Corps of the Volunteer Reserve.

	Rs.	a.
(*a.*) For loading any fire-arm contrary to orders or firing out of turn	1	14
(*b.*) For discharging any fire-arm accidentally	1	14
(*c.*) For appearing at any meeting with a dirty fire-arm	1	14
(*d.*) For disobedience of orders	7	8
(*e.*) For drunkenness at a rifle meeting or other assembly of members	7	8
(*f.*) Being guilty of misconduct, neglect, or any act to the prejudice of good order or discipline... ...	7	8
(*g.*) For pointing a loaded or unloaded fire-arm at any person without orders	15	0
(*h.*) For acting in a manner likely to cause an accident with fire-arms	15	0
(*i.*) For neglecting to keep 100 rounds of ammunition at his residence as provided under paragraph 20 ...	15	0
(*k.*) For neglecting or refusing to assemble on the date and at the place ordered by the Secretary as provided under paragraph 34, or refusing to do any duty, or leaving before he shall have been duly discharged from duty by the Secretary	75	0

SCHEDULE (C).

Covenant to be signed by a Member before receiving a Government Rifle.

, *Rifle Corps*, , 190 .

I, , a member of the above rifle corps, do hereby acknowledge to have received from His Majesty's Administration rifle numbered , and I hereby bind myself to the Administration under the penalty of 300 rupees, to be recovered in the Court of any Magistrate, not to sell or part with the said rifle to any person except in accordance with the rules of the above rifle corps, and at no time to take or allow the removal of the same beyond the borders of the Protectorate.

Signed by the above named at , on the day of , 19 .

Signed in the presence of me,

Uganda Protectorate. 30 Mar. 1903. TS Selected Foreign Office Files on Africa. The National Archives (Kew, United Kingdom). Nineteenth Century Collections Online. Web. 2 May 2016.

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